# HOLLYWOOD BOOK & POSTER NEWS

in this issue

VAMPIRA

GERRIT GRAHAM

and more!

# HOLLYWOOD BOOK

# & Poster News

## INCREDITORIAL

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TV & Film Script catalogs: \$2.00 each Movie Poster One Sheets (27X41) Rolled: \$15 Folded: \$10 Postage usually \$3.00 first class postage Call for additional info! Checking the battered H.B. & P. archives, it seems our last issue was published in April of 1989. Ten issues of mayhem Hollywood style. Working with various partners, Eric was doing film festivals and the store was a mecca for the most unusual faces of pop culture. One day, Tom Savini, the next, members of then up and coming bands GUNS N' ROSES and JANE'S ADDICTION. The next week ALICE COOPER might show up followed by Teller of Penn and Teller. Michael Jackson was a regular. Things were ripe for a newsletter of our type.

FANGORIA's Tony Timpone asked to reprint our Herschel Gordon Lewis interview in a 'Best of FANGORIA' issue. We were at the top of our form. We had several as yet unpublished interviews with great personalities like Tura Satana, Ted V. Mikels, Steve James... the list is

endless. But something happened...

What was it you ask? Hell... I don't know. I just found out during the course of this editorial that at least one more issue of H.B. & P. News was discovered... and more might exist. All but one or two of the original plates were lost. The ones that weren't were lost when we moved from Las Palmas. Laziness and severe alcoholism made a shaky situation worse.

Times and places change.Wrestling and porno now no longer have a place in these pages (unless the great Cactus Jack comes in again). No more Sky Saxon cartoons (look however for the collected cartoons to be published soon with a cover by Frank Miller). Expect us to stay on a quarterly schedule from now on. And no more losing things. We were gonna do a 'Best of ...' issue but have no master plates. Didn't we run those interviews with Ray Dennis Steckler and John Russo? We may never know.

Back on schedule and back in the chips...
THE ALCALDE

THIS ISSUE IS FAITHFULLY DEDICATED TO: Maila Nurmi, Gerrit Graham, Ray Collins, Mr. Steadman, Puddin', Jake & Lulu, the Vampire Lady, Lawrence Tierny, Tony Todd, David J. Schow, the Lazy Cowgirls, Tom Rainone, Ernie Terwilliger, Cheech & Chong, Darth Vato, Dan Roebuck, Edward D. Wood, Jr., Mark Goldblatt, Clive Barker, Frank Henenlotter, Johnny Ramone, the Punk Rock Vatos, Dave Friedman, Mike Vraney at Something Weird Video, Rudolph Grey, the guy from PANTERA, Johnny Thunders & Jerry Nolan, the Psychotronic Magazine, Video Watchdog Magazine, Bob Martin, Gore Gazette, Jimmy Jump, Lux & Ivy, Johnny Legend & Tony Conn, Panama Ken, the guy who killed himself at the movies, Wildman Fisher, the guy who calls Carol and asks about pictures of Malcom-Jamaal Warner, Tommy Lee Jones Robert Clarke, Conrad Brooks and Mr. George Haasid...

# on WOOD, DEAN and "BUNNY"

\*NOTE THIS INTERVIEW WAS DONE ABOUT A
YEAR AGO AT HB&P.SPECIAL THANKS TO RUDOLPH
GREY FOR POINTING THE WAY... to the drinks.

ALC: What's goin' on?

VAMP: Lately I've been doing garage sales.

That's about as creative as I've been (laughs). Up until recently I've been doing jewelery. Using beads. Colored glass and colored plastic. Lately though I've been in a funk where I just sit and stare at the wall.

That's pretty creative too!

ALC: What ever happened with the lawsuit against Elvira?

VAMP: Something did happen with it... I ran out of money. Her lawyers asked me to settle out of court and I didn't even answer them.

ALC: So you're not interested in the cash?

VAMP: I'm interested in going to her funeral.

ALC: Do you keep in touch with any of the "Ed Wood Spooks"?

VAMP: No. I am in contact with them once in a while. The only one who was really my friend was Criswell. He was a dear friend of mine. Of course, he's dead now. John Bunny Breckenridge is not permitted to come to Hollywood. His people that protect him, keep him in custody for his own good, don't allow people from Hollywood to come and visit him. He has a great deal of money. They want to declare him incompetent because he once wanted a sex change. He's being held captive on his lovely estate near Santa Barbara. Bunny was a good friend of mine too. I liked him very much but he wasn't here for very long.

ALC: Can you tell us about hangin' out on the Hollywood Beat Scene and your friendship with James Dean?

VAMP: Is there somebody in the world who is the closest like you? Someone who understands you just by looking at you? That's what Jimmy and I were to one another. It had nothing to do with romance.

VAMP: There was aslight erotic attraction. But neither one of us would do anything about it because that would've been like incest. We felt we were related on a psychic plane. Of course, Jimmy was alone and frightened in this world as am I because we were weird. But we weren't weird to each other. We used to go to GOOGIE'S which was straight down the hill from Laurel Canyon. That was our main club house. First booth on the right as you came in, not the famous booth in the rear. We'd meet there at midnite, sit there for three or four hours. Then we'd go to the Hamburger Hamlet on the end of the strip. We'd sit around the piano and goof around. Sometimes we'd go to Tiny Naylors or Barney's Beanery. I was the local star then and not many people knew Jimmy. Eventually my star fell as his began to rise. I was pushed aside by people who earlier were trying to get to me but now they were trying to get to Jimmy. I had the Vampira show... I quess I started in 1954 around February or March.





VAMP: I met Jimmy around June or July of that year. He had just done EAST OF EDEN.

ALC: Are there any kinescopes of the Vampira show.

VAMP: There were fifty-four kinescopes which I was negotiating to get in 1983. They were sold to the highest bidder and that was KHJ. That's where Cassandra Peterson learned the look of the show. I wouldn't help them after they broke their agreement to let me choose a girl. I had one meeting with her and said forget it.

ALC: Any other stories about Criswell?

VAMP: He officiated at my mothers funeral.

He came from a family of undertakers.

He got all the pall bearers. He got

Mae West to send a big display of

flowers. He was so sweet.

ALC: How did you become involved in BEAT GENERATION?

VAMP: There was aproducer named Albert
Zugsmith. He was doing a lot of 'B'
movies, about twenty a year at the
time. He had bought this script
called BEAT GENERATION. He said as
soon as he got the script his
friends said, Get Vampira she's a
real one. So he got me, before he
got the director, because his
friends told him I was an actual
beatnik. Then I did SEX KITTENS
GO TO COLLEGE. I was working in
that with a great fellow actor
Louis Nye. We did some great
improvisations off camera.

VAMP: What a guy!

ALC: Was it around this time that you opened your store on Melrose?

VAMP: After the Zugsmith films my life was filled with a love affair with a famous movie star who shall remain unamed. Then I opened my store. I converted my living room, I didn't have enough money to open a store. I figured , I'm on a main street, I'll open up my french windows, hang something outside and hopefully somebody will come in. It was the first boutique on Melrose. Right up the hill was the Whiskey. The musicians would come down and buy clothes from me. I'd stick a feather in a hat and they'd think they were home free. After that I decided to leave Hollywood. I wanted to leave the country but couldn't afford it so I moved to the barrio. I lived as Senora Helena. Like Abbie Hoffman, I lived underground.

ALC: How did you hook up with the MISFITS?

VAMP: They found out where I was. I had these huge skylight windows. It was a little storefront with huge long windows on top. Suddenly I saw this man peering in. It was mid-afternoon and there's this man with a skull painted on his face. He was bizarre and wearing black leather. Very intense. It terrified me. It was Glenn and the MISFITS. They had climbed up the building. I was amazed that they had this song about me and wearing PLAN NINE T-Shirts. All the people in the neighborhood were terrified of the MISFITS. They thought they were mad murderers.

ALC: What about the film with TOMATA du

VAMP: POPULATION ONE. It's always been my habit through seven decades of my life to work with my neighbors. I always change my vocation according to where I live so I don't have to travel. I'm very lazy. So sharing my parking lot with me were these people called the SCREAMERS. They had a little studio. So they said how'd you like to be an extra in this video we're making. It turned out to be a magnificent video. They didn't know who I was. They just thought this funny old lady would be a good extra in our video. Dancing ten cents a dance in an old ballroom.

# 0

PERCOLATE, the fourth studia LF from ALL, could only be recarded by a band that lives, works and breailhes the crede ALL OR MOTHIN'. ALL erupted five years ago from the rubble of the DESCEMBINTS and BLACK FLAG with a So Cal based pap-care guitar, bass and drum jelt. In their quest for the "Isotal extent," ALL lived and played tagether in he same Lomita, CA living /office space until 1990 when they relocated to a low bedroom offoredable house in Brooklied, MO. Being in the middle of the U.S. enables ALL to support their right month a year touring hold; and they get some quality fishing done in Brooklied Lake as well. On PERCOLATER, ALL blends have playing and heavy hitting with the band's knack far writing memorable songs, served up in a streightforward, highly developed musical attack. CRZ 022 (LP/CA/CD)

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# ENDINO'S EARTHWORM

ENDINO'S EATHWORM is a oreture concected by guitarist/producer, and faith faith, the is penetrating and userling as a linearist cancentration comp. As a founding member of the psychopower quarter from Seattle, SNIN YARD, Endine has staked out grilly territary with his menacing quites tyle for six years. Endine has gained the "Godfrither Of Growdge" title for his production and engineering work on many of the independent rock releases from the Merthwest US during that same period. On HONDO'S EANTHWORM, Endine lounches berlover, muscular guiter bleast stake givide haupens ha agency.



#### PEOPLE CHEMICAL

CHEMICAL PEOPLE by CHEMICAL PEOPLE in: what surpase would expect from these graduates of Bewerly Hills High, simply heaved an the four albums and one of Pthey've released over the past four years. Sure the TV show, Beverly Hills 1902 10, but mode their High School insuces but the CHEMICAL PEOPLE party and play much burder, faster and amped-up beyond what ony network ceasor would permit. A key to the Chemic crunch is drummer/vocalist Down Ruc and on CHEMICAL PEOPLE, be takes ever an quiter to turn up the famale magnet potential. Ed Urith unchars down their hard pap sound with tivot-gon shots of his bass.



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## GERRIT GRAHAM

you guys in tersure. He said he two or three exin the film. If down to see him I went down the turned out to be with DePalma was the spring of 1 but it has a lose I dropped out.

AN EXCERPT FROM A SOON TO BE PUBLISHED LOOK AT THIS GREAT ACTORS TRULY UNUSUAL CAREER.

ALC: What's goin' on?

GER: There's a movie as yet unreleased with that woman from CHEERS, Shelley Long.

It's called FROZEN ASSETS. Then there's another picture called THIS BOY'S LIFE based on the book by Tobias Wolfe. If you look at my list of movies there's a lot of peculiar stuff

ALC: Where were you born and raised?

GER: I was born in NYC. My parents moved around a lot when I was a kid. When I was three and a half we moved to a suburb of St. Louis, when I was about seven we moved to a suburb of Detroit. When I was twelve we moved to Chicago.

ALC: Those are some pretty rough cities.

GER: My father was a school teacher and headmaster at a private school in Chicago. I went to that school for a couple of years then I went to a boarding school in Massachusetts. After that I went to Columbia University in New York for three years and thats where I hooked up with Brian DePalma for the first time. I was general manager of the Columbia Players which was the extra-curriculur student theatre group. This was 1968. One day I got a call, "Hi, this is Brian DePalma. I was General Manager of the Columbia Players ten years ago and I thought since I'm making a motion picture now, maybe as a former player I might be in line for some help from

you guys in terms of cheap extras. I said sure. He said he was also looking for two or three experienced actors for leads in the film. If I knew any to send them down to see him. I never told anybody. I went down there myself and that film turned out to be GREETINGS! My next film with DePalma was HI MOM. That was shot in the spring of 1969. It's not a sequel, but it has a lot of the same ideas in it. So I dropped out of college and was working at Second City in Chicago. I went to New York and lived ther for a couple of years. Starved. I was waiting on tables. In the late fall of 1973 I got a call from brian saying he was gonna make a new film called PHANTOM. Paul Williams, who at the time was a very hot singer/songwriter was donating the music in exchange for being allowed to play a part in the movie. He was given his choice of parts and he originally wanted to play the Phantom. I was gonna play Swan and Peter Boyle was gonna play Beef. At a certain point he decided why play somebody that was weird and misshapen when he was himself considered by many to be weird and misshapen. He decided he would play Swan. Then the Phantom role went to the guy that it was written for. Bill Finley is an old friend of mine. And I got bumped

BFFF?"



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FLYING SAUCERS OVER HOLLYWOOD

Also known as the Plan 9 companion, this is a loving, well made tribute to the gone but never forgotten Ed Wood. Interviews with Plan 9 alumni Maila 'Vampira' Nurmi, Paul "Kelton the Cop' Marco, Gregory Walcott and Conrad Brooks. Even Sam Raimi, biographer Rudolph Grey and the widow of the chiropractor who doubled for Lugosi are interviewed. There's also an appearance by a seedy looking shop owner who clumsily knocks over a prop, much like the headstones in Plan 9.

Shot on non-cheese video, even the inclusion of one of the much despised Medfly brothers cannot bring this docu-vid down to the level of amatuerism one might expect from a Wood biography. The rare Wood footage, a visit to the one time home of Quality Studios (where Plan 9 was filmed) and the great Chiller Theatre opening prove that the producers of this project did not blow the chance to make a first rate piece of Wood related product that non snob Wood fans will take to heart.

Running a full but never boring two hours, and priced to own at \$24.95 this is a must have.

THE LOVE FEAST

An incredible although depressing find. Once again SOMETHING WEIRD VIDEO out of Seattle comes up with another landmark of sleaze that was once lost forever. Scripted and starring Bo Wood, it serves more as a document of Wcod's final days rather than an entertaining slice of nudie fare. Wood drinks onscreen, exposes his booze-soaked body and spouts lines of script which only he could have written. It's a sad yet riveting sight.

Starting out with a body painted credit sequence, the scene then switches to a wide eyed and goofy looking Wood. Double chin thrust proudly, it's hard to imagine Wood taking his probably small payment and heading right to the liquor store on Yucca.

A guaranteed feeling of melancholy, sort of surreal sadness for the man good fortune overlooked will spill over you while viewing. Recommended, but caution to the faint of heart.

- The Alcalde

THE VIDEO WATCHDOG BOOK

By Tim Lucas \$19.95

The Video Watchdog Book is the essential video collectors bible. Editor, Author and video historian, Tim Lucas has put together all the Video Watchdog Colmns first appearing in Video Times, Gorezone and on videotape in Michael Nesmith's Pacific Arts Overview along with added corrections and revisions to present as complete and accurate a dissection of the genre videos out in the open market today as possible.

No stone is left unturned when verifying the running time of a specific title, pointing out specific cuts and scenes added and helping sort out the rampant re-titlings of a particular

film.

A list of reliable mail order video companies is provided along with a complete index of all the films, companies and directors covered in all past issues of Video Watchdog Magazine.

Tim Lucas is to be highly commended for his painstaking research and examination into the video marketplace and I can't recommend this book highly enough.

- ERIC CAIDIN

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HARRY NOVACK - FRANKENSTEIN'S CASTLE OF FREAKS MANTIS IN LACE---BEAUTIFUL, BLOODY AND BARE KISS ME QUICK (aka DR. BREEDLOVE)



to Beef. I can hardly complain, that performance put me on the map.

ALC: Is it true that you had the flu and a bad fever during the filming of the concert scene in PHANTOM?

That was true. Working with the same group of people for three months is like being in kindergarten. If one person has a cold, sooner or later everyone is gonna get that cold. It happened to be a particularly nasty bronchial flu. So for the concert scene I had an oxygen mask and I swear to God, a nurse who kept pumping B-12 into my ass for re-takes... to make sure I was peppy (laughs). Fortunately after that I had a week off.. So I just crashed in the hotel room. It's funny. Dallas, Texas in the winter of 1973 walking back from the Majestic Theatre were the concert scene was filmed, to the hotel and I often had glitter in my hair and this real fruity make-up on. I got some strange looks there in 'Big D'.

ALC: Did you research any of the glitter bands of the time to do Beef?

GER: No. They were gonna use SHA NA NA for the bands. You know, the JUICY FRUITS, the UNDFAD. So that's what I thought when Brian said come on out to rehearsel. I thought he wanted that New York greaser thing. So we went through the scene and that's how I did it. Brian said to try it differently. A little flamboyant. (Does the Beef voice) Oh, like this? And that was it. That scene where I fall down on the runway and I can't get up, I came up with that scene. I do that big kick in the air and fall down on my stomach, turn over and can't get up. Those shoes... I found those shoes myself

by the way. Many directors just look at the watch and say they haven't got the time. Not Brian. He would sit there and laugh. He had enough spontaneity to be able to go with something good if something good was happening.

AIC: Did you ever have any fantasies about being a rock star?

GER: Certainly not in the Beef mode! I play a little guitar. In the early seventies I was a rock critic. I wrote for CREEM, for FUSION. Occasionally for ROLLING STONE. One out of Jacksonville. FLA. called ZOO WORLD. One in New York called GOOD TIMES.

ALC: Who are some of the current bands you like?

GER: I like PEARL JAM and TEMPLE OF THE DOG.
I just saw LOS LOBOS. I like a lot of different music.

ALC: CANNONBALL and USED CARS are two of my favorites that you're in.

GER: That was directed by Paul Bartel back when he was doing things like DEATH RACE 2000. At the time his motto was, "It's a Paul Bartel picture where the car is the star". That had a lot of good people in it. I thought my performance in that was very good. It's not often in most actor's lives that they see on screen excactly what they thought they were doing, what they wanted to do. PHANTOM is one and I think CANNONBALL is definitely another. I have problems with some of my stuff in USED CARS.

THIS INTERVIEW WILL BE CONTINUED SOON COVERING ALL THE FILMS GERRIT HAS DONE AND ALSO HIS TELEVISION APPEARENCES AND OTHER STUFF...



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FLYING THROUGH HOLLYWOOD BY THE SEAT OF MY PANTS

An autobiography by Sam Arkoff with Richard Trubo is a worthy companion to the earlier biography by Roger Comman on the AIP years.

Sam Arkoff is the independent low budget pioneer behind the start of American International Pictures along with the late James Nicholson. His story ia a fascinating account of how an independent film company is started and developed to being able to compete with the majors. Arkoff's target audience was the teen filmgoers and he jumped into the exploitation film market with full force.

He started the unique film making process of coming up with the titles and promotion

first, then the script followed.

Films in the early 1950's that reflected the early AIP efforts included BEAST WITH A MILLION EYES, IT CONQUERED THE WORLD, TERROR FROM THE YEAR 5000 along with the teen oriented rock n' roll films including DIARY OF A HIGH SCHOOL BRIDE and THE COOL AND THE CRAZY to name but a few films. Arkoff, AIP and the marketing forces behind them literally created the teenage film gang phenomena all the way through the 1970's, jumping onto current fads at a moments notice and creating a few along the way. In the sixties, with the beach party films, biker films and drug films up until the high grossing independent films AMITYVILLE HORROR and DRESSED TO KILL, Arkoff stuck to his guns and created a legacy in the low budget film history books.

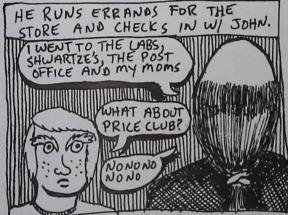
Arkoff's book is essential reading to all low budget film fans and professionals and I can't think of a more entertaining way to be introduced to this unique way of filmaking.

- Eric Caidin

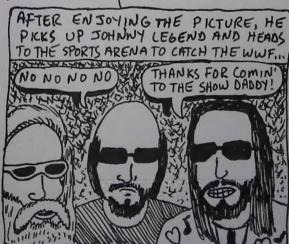


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